

For Jeffrey Reynolds and the Trinity Compline Choir

# *Nunc dimittis*

(Song of Simeon)

**Text:** Luke 2:29-31, *Gloria Patri*

**Music:** Charles H. Giffen  
(Candlemas, 2011)

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared  
before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

The musical score is written for four voices: Alto, Tenor, Baritone, and Bass. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 40, and the dynamics are marked as *p* (piano). The lyrics are: LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel. The score includes a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The Alto and Tenor parts begin with a half note on G4, followed by a half note on A4, and then a half note on B4. The Baritone and Bass parts begin with a half note on G3, followed by a half note on A3, and then a half note on B3. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating where the notes continue.

Alto  
LORD, now let - - - test thou

Tenor  
LORD, now let - - - test thou

Baritone  
LORD, now let - - - test thou

Bass  
LORD, now let - - - test thou

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7 *pp* *mp* *p* *mp*

*crescendo* *diminuendo*

— thy ser-vant de - part in — peace: ac - cord -

8 *pp* *mp* *p* *mp*

*crescendo* *diminuendo*

— thy ser-vant de - part in — peace: ac - cord - ing to —

*pp* *mp* *p* *mp*

*crescendo* *diminuendo*

— thy ser-vant de - part — in peace: — ac - cord - ing

*pp* *mp* *p* *mp*

*crescendo* *diminuendo*

— thy ser-vant de - part — in peace: ac -

13 *p* *mp*

*crescendo*

- ing to thy word. For mine eyes have seen — thy — sal -

*p* *mp*

*crescendo*

— thy word. For mine eyes have seen — thy — sal -

*p* *mp*

*crescendo*

to — thy word. For mine eyes have seen — thy sal -

*p* *mp*

*crescendo*

cord - ing to thy word. For mine eyes have seen — thy — sal -

19 *f* *mf*

va - tion, Which thou hast pre - pared be -

8 *f* *mf*

va - tion, Which — thou hast pre - pared be - fore the

*f* *mf*

va - tion, Which thou hast pre - pared — be - fore the

*f* *mf*

va - tion, Which thou — hast pre - pared be - fore the face

23 *p* *pp* *mp* *f*

fore the face of all peo - ple, To be a light — to light-en the

*p* *pp* *mp* *f*

face of all peo - ple, To be a light — to light-en the

*p* *pp* *mp* *f*

face — of all peo - ple, To be a light — to light-en the

*p* *pp* *mp* *f*

of all peo - ple, To be a light — to light-en the

*decrescendo*

30 *mp* *mf* *crescendo*

Gen - tiles, \_\_\_\_\_ and to be the glo - ry

*mp* *mf* *crescendo*

Gen - tiles, \_\_\_\_\_ and to be the glo - - - - ry

*mp* *mf* *crescendo*

Gen - tiles, \_\_\_\_\_ and to be the glo - - - - - - - ry

*mp* *mf* *crescendo*

Gen - tiles, \_\_\_\_\_ and to be the glo - - - - - - - - - - ry

35 *ff* *mf* Slightly faster (♩ = 44)

of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the

*ff* *mf*

of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the

*ff* *mf*

of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the

*ff* *mf*

of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the

41 *mp* *rallentando* **Slower** (♩ = 68) *p*

Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

*mp* *p*

Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

*mp* *p*

Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

*mp* *p*

Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

**Tempo primo** (♩ = 40) *p*

As it was in the be -

*p*

As it was in the be - gin -

*p*

As it was in the be - gin -

*p*

As it was in the be - gin - ning,

53 *mp* *mf*

gin - ning, \_\_\_\_\_ is now, and \_\_\_\_\_ ev - er shall be, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp* *mf*

ning, \_\_\_\_\_ is now, and \_\_\_\_\_ ev - er shall be, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp* *mf*

ning, \_\_\_\_\_ is now, and \_\_\_\_\_ ev - er shall be, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp* *mf*

\_\_\_\_\_ is now, and \_\_\_\_\_ ev - er shall be, \_\_\_\_\_

*crescendo*

59 *Adagio* (♩ = 68) *p* *mp* *Allargando* (♩ = 56) *p* *Morendo* *pp*

world with-out end. A - - - - men. \_\_\_\_\_

*p* *mp* *p* *pp*

world with-out end. \_\_\_\_\_ A - - - - men. \_\_\_\_\_

*p* *mp* *p* *pp*

world with - out end. \_\_\_\_\_ A - - - - men. \_\_\_\_\_

*p* *mp* *p* *pp*

world with - - - - out end. \_\_\_\_\_ A - - - - men. \_\_\_\_\_